

# The Lemon Grove REVIEW



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## East County men have 'a ball' at Padres' Fantasy Camp

by Greg Eichelberger

Six East County men, Brad Baker, Doug Tuper, Wayne Dabney and Jack Valentine of El Cajon; Dennis McCreight of Spring Valley; and La Mesa's Jeffrey Martin, were given the opportunity to fulfill their ultimate baseball fantasy recently at Jack Murphy Stadium.

They took advantage of the San Diego Padres four-day "Fantasy Camp," in which lovers of the sport (not necessarily super athletes) pay \$990 for the pleasure of training, playing, chatting and getting tips from former players such as Randy Jones and Nate Colbert of the Padres and pitcher Norm Sherry of the Dodgers.

The East County players were joined by Rene Prats, who owns all the East County Rally's hamburger restaurants franchises, in a chance to hold on to past glory days.

The camp culminated on a Sunday evening after a Padres game, when the participants took to the field against their heroes and a smattering of minor league players. In the two, three-inning exhibition contests, the campers and pros split, the amateurs winning, 1-0, while the former players took the second, 3-2.

Valentine, a wedding videographer in La Mesa, and the only camp participant with some Major League experience (sort of), tripled and scored the

only run of the first contest. "I once tried out for the California Angels," said Valentine. "But they considered my age (23 at the time) a negative, figuring I would be near 30 by the time I came up to the big leagues."

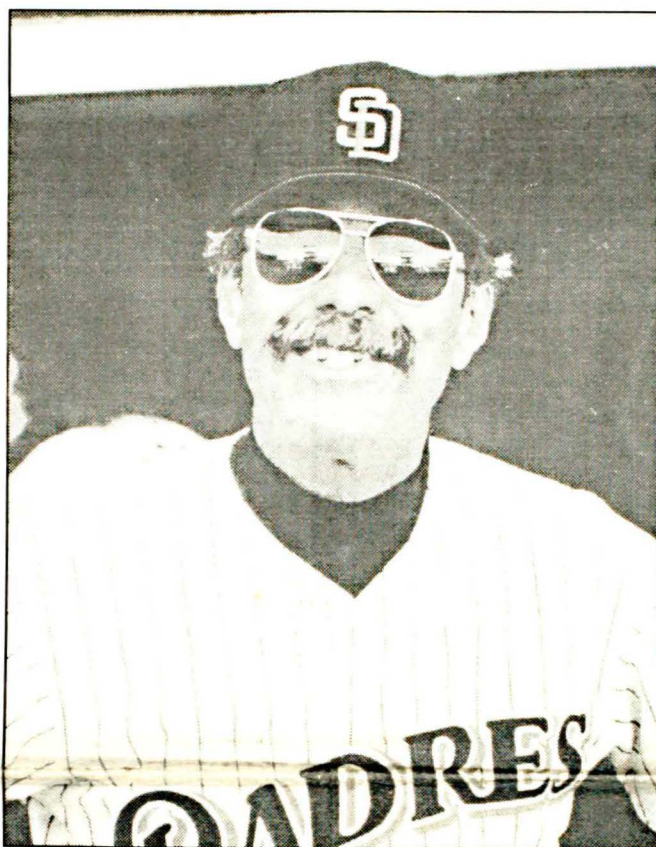
Valentine said that he had been playing in the Men's Senior Baseball League (MSBL) for about 11 years now, but that this is the ultimate. As for his three-base hit, he exclaimed, "Not bad running for 46-year-old legs?"

"When I pitched the first game here, I thought I had died and gone to heaven," he said. "I couldn't even throw a strike because my body was just completely out of control."

For their fee, each received a complete, authentic Padre uniform with their name across the back, a hat, a special commemorative video and a baseball autographed by the team.

"I was at the last Fantasy Camp in 1989," said Baker, a long-time La Mesa and El Cajon resident who owns and operates Catalina Pools. "I fell in love with baseball so much after that experience. 'Randy, Nate, John and the other pros have been fantastic to work with the past three days. The whole thing was great. You couldn't ask for nicer guys.'"

Baker added that there's nothing like the sensation of running in the outfield and flagging a fly ball, or playing



Dennis McCreight of Spring Valley shows his enjoyment at the recent Padres' Fantasy Camp.

Photo by Greg Eichelberger

first base and catching the ball before a guy crosses the bag or striking someone out from the pitcher's mound.

McCreight, a contracts manager for Science Applications International Corporation, and a

30-year resident of Spring Valley, has been playing senior hardball for the past four seasons with the National Adult Baseball Association (NABA).

"I can't begin to tell you just how it opens up your life and

makes you feel like a kid again," he said. "We all have aches and pains, but we got on this field this evening and every one of our aches are gone."

McCreight's wife, Linda, daughter, Mindy, and son, Aaron, were also on hand to share in his excitement.

The Spring Valley native suffered the ultimate humiliation - being struck out by Baker.

"Did I have a great time? Of course I did," McCreight said. "But whatever happened, this was a dream come true."

Prat went further by saying, "This is typical of Larry Lucchino, John Moores, the staff and everyone involved. It's been a first-class operation all the way, and this camp is just another in a long line of community successes."

Dabney, who lives on the border of Lakeside and El Cajon, and is the vice-President of the NABA San Diego chapter, even sang the national anthem before the exhibition.

"I played fast-pitch softball for 35 years," said the Navy veteran and Pacific bell employee, who also took part in the 1989 camp. "But, I gave it up when I started playing hardball. This is the icing on the cake for me, being able to play at Jack Murphy with all of these great ex-players and other participants. I hope they do this every year."

## Season-long consistency at Cajon brings Tipps 5th racing title

by Joe Naiman

For the fourth year in a row and the fifth time in six years El Cajon's John Tipps won the Street Stocks championship at the Cajon Speedway.

Tipps clinched the Street Stocks championship Sept. 7 with two races still to go. He had also clinched his 1995 championship with two races to spare.

"Feels good," he said of his fifth championship. "All the guys on the crew did it again for me. This was a really consistent year, as we finished every race. That's the key, I guess."

Tipps, now 39, began his racing career with the San Diego Karting Association in 1970. The Tipps family had decided to take a trip to the karting track in Jamul.

"We went out there and got bit by the bug," said Tipps, who grew up in Santee and attended Santana High School.

On the local track, John won several titles and, in 1982, he participated in the International Karting Federation's Grand

Nationals and finished second in the nation.

During his last kart racing season (1983), Tipps felt that it was time to move on. He wanted to do something different, he recalled and decided to do the Street Stocks.

"Street stocks were basically the beginner's class back then," said Tipps. "We decided that was the class we could afford."

In 1983, the year before Tipps got his start as a driver, he worked on Super Stocks racer Rex Murray's pit crew. Murray had worked on Mike Hagerman's pit crew prior to becoming a driver and Hagerman, who owned AA Auto Wrecking, became Tipps' first sponsor.

"He helped me a lot in getting my car set up," said Tipps. "I was fortunate to have a pretty good car right from the start. I just had to learn the ropes basically."

Tipps began his racing career alternating driving duties with one of his brothers. His brother decided that the

team would be more successful if John drove.

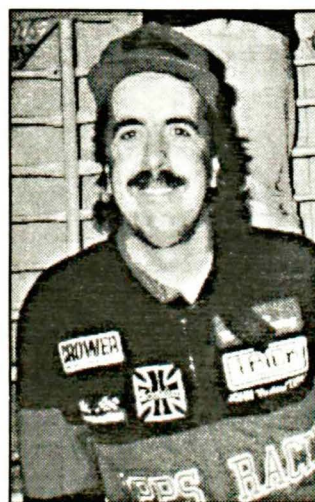
Tipps, who was in 13th place in the point standings at the time of the decision, moved up to fifth by the end of the season. Tipps also had two main event wins in 1984, and had a few fast qualifying times.

Over the next four years Tipps' best finish at season's end was third place, but in 1990 he finished second, losing by about 20 points.

Tipps had plenty of Street Stocks competitors in 1991, including Mike Mendenhall and Mike Carver, but came away with his first track championship.

"We knew we could win it. We just had to do everything right," said Tipps. He finished about 30 points behind Carver in 1992.

Tipps, a technician for Action Instruments since 1978, was sponsored by his employer after losing his other sponsor. "They actually came to me and asked me if they could help me out," he said.



John Tipps

In August, a post-race inspection checked for cylinder heads. The cylinder heads of the cars driven by Carver and Tyczki were found to be out of compliance.

A weight violation, such as being underweight or having too much weight on the left side, causes disqualification and loss

of all points for the night. A violation considered to constitute a racing advantage causes loss of all points for the season. Carver and Tyczki were stripped of all points through that race, putting Ferguson in second and increasing Tipps' lead in the points standings.

"I was kind of sorry to see it happen," said Tipps of Carver who had been leading Tipps in points. "I would have rather raced him for the championship."

Tipps has never even been disqualified for a weight violation, many of which are not intentional efforts to cheat but rather the result of losing a part during the race. "I don't think there's any secret," said Tipps of his ability to keep the points he earned on the track. "You don't run the car close to minimum weight. My car is always 25 to 30 pounds overweight so if something falls off we'll be okay."

The week after Tipps clinched his fifth championship, he claimed his 30th career main event victory.



# B Words by Bob Burns

## The saga of San Miguel

We really owe the water people a big vote of thanks for the job that made San Miguel the street that it is today. For those of you who don't know it, we could well have been less fortunate. It is a great improvement in both safety and esthetics, as well as markedly improving the property values of the adjoining residents.

It did take a long time to come and, with some, difficult to understand progressions of the work, but it is finished and looks great. There was some dismay when the jack hammers were chattering into the not-yet-hardened asphalt, but that was explained. It is easier and cheaper to just cover over the manholes with the street overlay, and then go back and install a cement ring around each afterward.

The water department, which installed the 8-foot-diameter pipeline down the middle of San Miguel, originally planned to do it with an open ditch, which incidentally would have been about 20 feet wide. The anticipated dust, dirt, noise and property isolation was immense. We pleaded with the contractors to ameliorate that distress with some perks along the way and afterward. Jim Dorman, myself and Jack Shelper emphatically demanded some recompense to those property owners who would lose access temporarily and suffer the hardships of such construction. We were successful in getting commitments for same.

Promise was made to provide compensation for damage to adjoining properties, for temporary access plates and offsite parking for each residence, for superb dust and dirt control and acceptable hours of work on the project. In addition, they promised to completely redo the street surface and to install curbs and sidewalks along the street involved with the actual pipeline. This was, of course, to be at no cost to the property owner.

Somewhere along the way, it was decided that a tunnel would be better than an open ditch, even though it would cost a bit more to complete. At this point, the city fathers began to wonder about how the change would affect the agreement above. Since there would be much less of the proposed discomfort topside, we became more curious as time went on and nothing was said about it. Actually, an argument could well have been made to renegotiate the promise.

When the pipeline was completed, the contractor was ready to do the surface work, but the city was not. Ownership of the slivers of land needed by the city had not been acquired. The contractor wanted his workmen to proceed, but they could not. So it was decided that the \$600,000-plus that they had allocated to do the work was given to the city, and the contractors packed up and left. With the money safely in the bank, brows were wiped and we said "wheewww." After some time, the property was acquired and now the job is done, under budget I might add.

Sooooo, we should thank them for honoring their commitment when they might have well skinned out of it for supposed cause. If this sounds like a slight feeling of guilt on my part, forget it. Lemon Grove suffered much in having this monstrous pipe snaked through about three miles of our city, on behalf of the entire region which will benefit from it. Much of East County experienced discomfort during the construction, and all will benefit. Lemon Grove residents suffered a lot, and need not apologize for anything ...

## Letter to the Editor

### Debate Commission should learn from golf

I just saw the movie "Tin Cup," and was surprised by something I learned. Like many people, I assumed you had to be a top professional to play in the U.S. Open, but true to its title, the tournament is indeed open — anyone with a 2-handicap or better, amateur or pro, can enter qualifying rounds for the main event. I sure wish the game of politics were that open, but alas, it is not so.

Just ask Harry Browne, Libertarian candidate for president. In his qualifying rounds, he achieved ballot-access in all 50 states (which required millions of signatures), qualified for matching federal campaign funds (though he refused them — unlike Perot, Browne doesn't want to add to the federal deficit), and is even leading an incumbent president in many Internet presidential polls. Yet, he isn't welcome at the main event — the debates.

I hope that someday, perhaps in the next century, the Debate Commission will be as democratic as the United States Golf Association.

TIM MALINOSKI  
Lakeside

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### Submissions

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All materials must be received by the Monday preceding the date of publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

### Advertising

All advertising is subject to current rate card. The publisher reserves the right to reject an advertiser's order. Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance.

Send all correspondence to: Forum Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA 91946

## Lemon Grove Almanac

1994 Population: 25,100  
Incorporated: 1977  
Area: 3.75 sq. mi.  
Median income: \$34,399

Mayor: Mary Teresa Sessom  
Council: Thomas Clabby  
Craig Lake  
Dwight Shelley  
Jeff Jandura

City Manager: Doug Yount  
Planning Director: Jim Butler  
Attorney: Gloria McLean  
City Clerk: Christine Taub  
Sheriff's Capt.: Yolanda Collins  
Fire Chief: William Wright

Congressional district:  
52nd - Duncan Hunter  
State Senate district:  
40th - Steve Peace  
State Assembly district:  
77th - Steve Baldwin  
Supervisory district:  
2nd - Dianne Jacob

1993 taxable sales: \$1.47 million  
Libraries: 1  
Post offices: 1  
Parks: 4  
Recreation centers: 1

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papers



## Eclipse eclipsed

Wouldn't you know it? Last week, the night sky was completely overcast, including Thursday during the lunar eclipse. Then Friday, the Full Moon was as big and bright as can be!

The Moon will now wane through mid-October as we head full speed into fall. About an hour before sunrise for the next week, four planets are visible simultaneously. Mercury gives its best dawn showing of the year for several mornings. Look for it before sunrise well to the left of the more brilliant Venus in the east. Mars will appear to the upper right of Venus. (Venus will be notably visible near the Moon on Oct. 8) Turn around to spot Saturn about to set a few degrees south of due west. Saturn shines between the low star Fomalhaut and the higher-up Great Square of Pegasus.

In sequence from east to west, note the beautiful alignment of Mercury, Regulus, Venus, Mars, Pollux, Aldebaran, Moon and Saturn. All appear within the celestial beltway known as the zodiac, which appears nearly vertical in the predawn sky in late summer and early fall.

October is a good time to continue following Comet Hale-Bopp. If you have a telescope, you can see a fuzzy patch (the comet), halfway between the stars Beta and Eta, 11 degrees from each star. From now until mid-month, the comet changes position against the star background by barely a degree, and the waning moonlight doesn't interfere.

Do you have some stargazing tidbits to add? Send it to NightWatch in care of this paper, Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA. 91946.

## Community Notes

### Safe Halloween coupon booklet available

East County residents can purchase a Safe Halloween coupon booklet containing values worth over \$50 for just \$1 through Oct. 31.

Some of the participants include: Cinnabon, Baltimore Bagel Co., San Diego Ice Arena, Rally's Hamburgers, Yellow Brick Road, United Artists, Belmont Park, Seaport Village, Family Fun Centers, Farrell's Weinerschnitzel, Domino's Pizza, Ben & Jerry's, Play Co. Toys, Heidi's Frogen Yozurt and Sea World. All coupons are free, no extra purchase necessary to redeem offers, and are not limited to children redemption.

The booklets can be purchased from all San Diego Rally's Hamburgers, Play Co. Toys, United Artists Theaters and Weinerschnitzel locations. Additional outlets include participating Heidi's Frogen Yozurt and Farrell's stores.

All proceeds benefit the Easter Seal Society of Southern California, San Diego County. One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to the development and improvement of programs and services for disabled children and adults in San Diego.

For more information contact Easter Seals at 541-0991.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 96-52862 Title Order No. 8901463 Reference No. 19709167 APN No. 503-300-02-00 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 12/05/86. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On October 22, 1996, at 10:00 AM, Professional Foreclosure Corporation as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust, recorded on 12/15/86 as Document No. 86-584793 Book - Page - of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of SAN DIEGO County, California, executed by: JAMES R. DONAHUE AND TERESA M. DONAHUE, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS, as Trustor, OCEANVIEW MORTGAGE CORP., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, as Beneficiary. WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). At: AT THE SOUTH ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE AT 220 WEST BROADWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA., all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California describing the land therein: The South 70 Feet of Lot 1, Duda Acres, in the City of Lemon Grove, County of San Diego, State of California, According to Map Thereof No. 2423, Filed in the Office of the County Recorder of San Diego County, September 11, 1947. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 2635 WASHINGTON STREET, LEMON GROVE, CA 92045. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$90,514.74 Estimated. Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recording. Professional Foreclosure Corporation as Trustee, 5 Hutton Centre Drive, Suite 1050, Santa Ana, CA 92707. Telephone Number: (714) 432-9000. By: TAMMY FALLO, TRUSTEE SALE OFFICER, Date: 09/19/96 NPP0018877 PUB: 10/01/96, 10/08/96, 10/15/96

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## Sports Beat

with Greg Eichelberger



Hello Mr. and Mrs. East County sports fans, and all the ships at sea. Here's the news. Despite a cavalcade of local activities, the big story is the San Diego Padres' dogged capture of that ever-elusive butterfly known as the National League West title (their first since 1984). To be quite honest, I wouldn't have given the team any chance whatsoever to have swept the Dodgers in Los Angeles, especially against L.A.'s "vaunted" pitching, so much on the line, and the Bums needing to win only one, but thanks to the unlikely hero of them all, Chris Gwynn and marvelous pitching by the entire staff, they pulled it off. But it's sooooo sweet to see L.A. get knocked off, isn't it? Anyway, since they clinched the division, they will open the playoffs at St. Louis, and play the final games here, Saturday, Sunday and Monday (if necessary). And who knows, we could face Los Angeles yet again. We'll see ...

And what's better than the Padres beating the Dodgers? Why, the Chargers running roughshod over the Raiders, of course. Now I'm not going to say that L.A. and Oakland fans are rowdy, but where else do they have "Small Arms Nights" and "Peppermint Schnapps" promotional giveaways at their respective stadiums? Not only that, but a 22-19 win over the Chiefs closed out a perfect sports weekend ...

Can our local football teams do any worse this week? Come on, guys, now that you're playing each other, *some* East County squad has to emerge with a few wins, right? Well, let's see, Grossmont edged Mount Miguel, Santana was speared by Valhalla (by the way, did you know that Valhalla is supposed to be where Vikings go after they die?) and El Capitan crushed Granite Hills. Although, once again, Monte Vista, last year's Division III champions, lost. This time to Carlsbad, 24-0 (groan). And since I'm on the high school bandwagon, just what is a "Vaquero"?

My friend and co-editor, Marv, asked me not to get too "political," but sometimes sports and politics, like Bob Dole and Bill Clinton, make very strange bedfellows. So, with that in mind, I was more than a little surprised to find out that the only thing that could possibly make (Santee mayoral candidate) Jim Romine look good, was none other than the Grossmont Union School District. Here's how it happened: It seems those money-grubbers over at Grossmont imposed fees on local Pop Warner (and I suppose other groups) to use their precious school fields to play their weekend games. Whereas it used to be free, it now costs these organizations \$50 an hour during the day, and \$150 an hour at night. Hey, Grossmont, why not just put on a mask and use a gun? Or pull the wings off of butterflies while you're at it. I'm sure that little kids playing sports on such sacred ground is cause for alarm, but this is going too far. Unfortunately, this situation provided Romine (as well as Channel 10 and others) an opportunity to force the district to back down, and finally waive the fees for this year, at least. Next season, however, look for the monolithic district's sticky fingers to be in more pockets than ever, even our young ones ...

Come out see these intrepid gridiron youngsters, who exhibit much more character and sportsmanship than GUSD ever did, over the next few Saturdays and remember, the Santee/Lakeside group needs two parents to help out with snack bar duty on Oct. 12 and 19. Call Gary Stous at 561-1661 for an assignment ...

A big "Ike" hand goes out to our San Diego Sockers (17-10), who clinched a play-off spot, the Grossmont College (Merv) Griffins, who defeated Fresno in football, and the SDSU Aztecs, a 51-41 winner over Oklahoma last week ...

A big "Ike" raspberry to the spineless goofballs at the University of Miami of Ohio's board of regents, who, in an effort to be as politically-correct as possible, decided to drop the name of their football team—the Redskins recently. Even after the remaining members of the Miami tribe (mostly in Oklahoma) claimed the moniker was in no way offensive or racist. What will they change next? The Mount Miguel Matadors (makes fun of Spaniards), the Valhalla Norsemen (anti-Scandinavian) and the El Cajon Valley Braves (once again, demeaning to Indians)? Let's hope our East County sense and sensibility can trickle down to others in this great (albeit P.C.) land of ours ...

You can continue to expect this kind of hard-hitting, no-punches-pulled reporting in this new sports forum, because honesty is what we're all about. Say, you can help, too. If you have any recreation news, just give me a call (390-7103), and I'll be sure to publicize it. But I can't do anything without your input, so give it a shot. Until then, have a great sports week.

## Street signs all that remain of La Mesa Country Club and 18-hole golf course

by Norrie West

You wouldn't know of course, but La Mesa had a country club once, and it sported 18 holes of very good golf.

But it wasn't quite that way in the beginning. In fact, it started as a nine-hole dirt course, 3,100 yards long, its tees and greens oiled-sand, and the final two holes so steep only a goat could like them. That was 1921.

Memberships were a bit slow coming in, but on July 4, 1922 the first tournament on the par-35 layout drew 150 players!

The course, with its clubhouse atop the hill, occupied acreage south of the 125-94 connection at the foot of Spring Street. Actually the land had been part of the historic Bancroft Ranch of Spring Valley.

The first hole was a 440-yard downhill, doglegging left to a green that was sort of tucked behind the hillside. But boy, what a drive you could hit off that tee way up on the hilltop.

The clubhouse was originally a building intended as a home for Griffing Bancroft, son of the famous historian Hubert Bancroft.

Griffing never finished it. Remodeled as a clubhouse, it was the center of social gatherings for La Mesans for a number of years, particularly in the '20s.

When all the work was done in 1923, the clubhouse included a dining room, a ballroom, locker room and two large fireplaces faced with Grossmont granite.

Buying additional land in 1928, the country club course was stretched to 18 holes, although it was not until the next year that the fairways, greens, land and tees were seeded with grass.

Unfortunately, it wasn't long before the ill-fated stock

market crash of 1929 occurred, followed by the Great Depression of the '30s. By 1931 the club was failing and the staff of employees was cut from 14 to seven.

One of those let go was a man named Ron Smith who had helped build the course 10 years earlier.

Ron said the end was in sight when you could buy an associate membership for just

would get a quarter tip.

The first pro was a fellow named Charlie Dietrich, but the pro later on was a grizzled Scot named Bob Simpson, who had once been a top player, even winning the prestigious Western Open (in 1911) still a fixture on the PGA Tour.

He wasn't young, but he could still play well and, he could swear even better.

Every third word, which was just the way he talked, hardly aware of it. With his Scotch brogue, it was colorful.

Once the great Babe Zaharias played an exhibition match at the club. She was something else! She would

hitch up her girdle and let fly. Some athlete, some golfer!

They weren't used anymore, but there were still sand-boxes on the tees. In the early '20s, you made your own tee with sand and water. There were no little wooden tees to place your ball on.

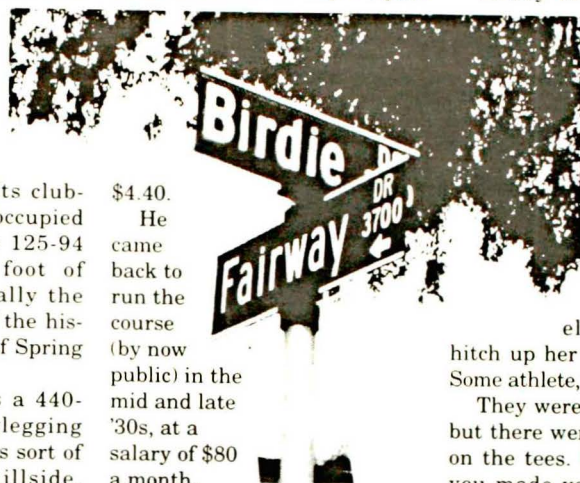
There were few courses in the county, maybe six or seven, and no others in East County. When owner Chris Laursen sold the property in 1950, there was no golf course hereabouts.

Later in the '50s came Flying Hills Golf Course in El Cajon, followed by Singing Hills in 1956.

Most of the La Mesa course was on flat ground, just south of state Route 94 and Broadway that goes west to Lemon Grove.

If you drive that way, you will see Fairway Street, and if you go down that, you see streets named Niblick, Park, Link and Birdie, etc.

It wasn't a great golf course, but anyone who played it could not forget it. Especially someone like me, who got his start in golf there. And who, 67 years later, is still playing.



\$4.40.

He

came

back to

run the

course

(by now

public) in the

mid and late

'30s, at a

salary of \$80

a month,

which he enhanced by \$40 by

cleaning clubs.

I remember La Mesa Country Club very well, because it was there I played my first round of golf in 1929 when my next door neighbor, John Haslam Sr. invited me to join his weekly foursome one heavenly Saturday.

Why did he invite me?

Maybe because I was 12 and I had never played before. He knew I was nutty about golf. He had given me an old wooden-shafted mashie (5-iron now) a few months earlier, and I'm sure he had watched me hit some old golf balls up and down our gravel road.

Later on in the mid-'30s, I caddied there and helped in the golf shop.

Even now, I wonder how I ever carried those bags up those hellish last two holes. You got 50 cents a round, 75 cents if you carried double, two bags. And you prayed you

## Junior golf standings led by Cole

by Norrie West

Petra Cole of El Cajon led the way in countywide junior golf this season, winning the girls 10-and-under championship of the San Diego County Junior Golf Association.

Cole was one of eight East County junior golfers finishing high in the 1996 standings of the San Diego JGA, just announced.

Although only 9 years old Petra, won 10 of 20 tournaments she entered, five of them by playoffs. She was second in seven other tournaments.

A fourth-grader at Our Lady of Grace School Petra has another year in the 10-and-under division.

Other East County Juniors with high rankings for 1996 included the following:

Brian Hess of La Mesa, fourth in boys 15-17, who won the Benoit, Bradley/Kruk and

Poynter/Sunderman Junior Tournaments. His best score of the year was a 71 to win the Benoit at Rancho San Diego. Brian is 16, with another year left in junior golf.

Emily Balmert, 9, a student at Jamacha School in Rancho San Diego, placed third in girls 10-and-under, entering 18 events and placing fourth or better in all of them. One of her best scores was 38 at Sun Valley course for second place in the Mike Walker.

Kyle Safford, 11, a student at La Mesa's Murdock Elementary, was fifth in girls 10-and-under.

Her best finish was a second in the Phil Mickelson, with a 43 on the par-32 short course at Balboa Park.

Ryan Marsh, 13, of Jamul, who was sixth in boys 11-12. A student at Oak Grove Middle School, Ryan won one tournament, the Mission Bay shoot-out a 3-over-par 57 at Mission

Bay Golf Course.

Jesse Mueller, 13, of El Cajon, finished in a tie for fifth in boys 13-14, winning the Oceanside tournament. Jesse attends Christ Lutheran School, and has another year left in his division.

Kathleen O'Neill of Ramona finished third in girls 11-12, winning two tournaments, the Union-Tribune/Century Club and the Poynter/Sunderman. She is 12.

Her sister Courtney, 13, was sixth in girls 13-14, and has one more year of competition in that age division. A student at Pierce Junior High, her best effort was second in the La Jolla tournament.

A total of 53 young golfers who ranked highest in the just-finished season, including the eight East County players listed above, will be honored at the JGA's annual award banquet Nov. 10 at the Hand-ley/Star-dust Hotel in Mission Valley.

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